

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

A disk recording and reproducing device keeps a disk in a standby position spaced from the objective lens of an optical pickup to prevent the objective lens from contacting the surface of the disk even when the objective lens is moved within a movable range because the disk recording and reproducing device are subjected to vibrations, shocks, or the like. The disk recording and reproducing device has a slide plate slidable by a drive element through a rack. When the slide plate slides, the disk is pulled in a horizontal direction from a disk ejecting position and thereafter is lowered vertically and positioned in a disk writing/reading position in which information can be written on and read from the disk by an optical pickup. The slide plate has switch triggers, and a switch having contact pins detectable by the switch triggers is mounted on a chassis. While the disk is moving from the disk writing/reading position toward the disk ejecting position, one of the contact pins is operated by the switch trigger of the slide plate, and the disk is held in a disk standby position which is spaced a predetermined distance from the objective lens of the optical pickup.